DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 116 817 RC 007 286

TITLE	Farm Population of the United States: 1972. Current Population Reports: Farm Population.
INSTITUTION	Bureau of the Census (DOC), Suitland, Md. Population Div.
REPORT NO	ERS-P-27-44
PUB DATE	Jun 73
NOTE	12p.; For related documents, see ED 058 385, ED 098 002, RC 008 966, RC 006 468
AVAILABLE FROM	Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402 (Series P-27, No. 44, $0.35)
EDRS PRICE	MF-$0.76 HC-$1.58 Plus Postage
DESCRIPTORS	Age; Agricultural Laborers; Birth Rate; *Census Figures; *Comparative Analysis; *Demography Employment; Family Income; Industry; *Labor Force; Population Trends; Racial Differences; *Rural Farm Residents; Rural Urban Differences; Sex Differences; Socioeconomic Status; Tables (Data)
IDENTIFIERS	Nonfrarm Population

ABSTRACT

Based on data derived from the Current Population Survey of the Bureau of Census, this statistical report presents demographic and labor force characteristics of the U.S. farm population and comparisons of the farm and nonfarm populations. Tabular data are presented as follows: (1) U.S. Population, Total and Farm: April 1960 to 1972; (2) Persons 14 Years Old and Over Employed in Agriculture by Farm-Nonfarm Residence and Sex: April 1972 and 1970; (3) Nonfarm Residents 14 Years Old and Over Employed in Agriculture, by Class of Worker and Sex: April 1972 and 1970; (4) Farm Population, by Age and Sex: April 1972 and 1970; (5) Farm Population, by Race and Sex, for Broad Age Groups: April 1972 and 1970; (6) Employment Status of the Farm Population 14 Years Old and Over, by Sex: April 1972 and 1970; by Regions: April 1972; (7) Employment Status of the Farm Population 14 Years Old and Over, by Race and Sex, for Regions: April 1972; (8) Farm Residents 14 Years Old and Over Employed in Agriculture by Class of Worker, Race, and Sex: April 1972 and 1970; by Regions: April 1972; (9) Farm Residents 14 Years Old and Over Employed in Nonagricultural Industries, by Class of Worker, Race, and Sex, for Regions: April 1972. (JC)

****
* Documents acquired by ERIC include many informal unpublished *
* materials not available from other sources. ERIC makes every effort *
* to obtain the best copy available. Nevertheless, items of marginal *
* reproducibility are often encountered and this affects the quality *
* of the microfiche and hardcopy reproductions ERIC makes available *
* via the ERIC Document Reproduction Service (EDRS). EDRS is not *
* responsible for the quality of the original document. Reproductions *
* supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made from the original. *
****

A UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PUBLICATION

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION

THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN REPRODUCED EXACTLY AS RECEIVED FROM THE PERSON OR ORGANIZATION ORIGINATING IT. POINTS OF VIEW OR OPINIONS STATED DO NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT OFFICIAL NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION POSITION OR POLICY

CURRENT POPULATION REPORTS

Farm Population

Series Census—ERS
P—27, No. 44
June 1973

ED116827

FARM POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES: 1972

The number of persons living on farms in rural areas of the United States averaged 9,610,000 in the 12-month period centered on April 1972. This estimate was prepared cooperatively by the Bureau of the Census and the Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Although the 1972 estimate of farm population is 185,000 higher than the 1971 estimate, the indicated increase is not statistically significant and should not be interpreted as a reversal in the longtime downward trend in the number of farm residents (see chart on page 11). The chances are about one out of five that an increase of this magnitude or greater would have been obtained from the sample even if no actual change had occurred in the farm population between 1971 and 1972.

Of the more than 207 million people in the Nation in April 1972, only 4.6 percent, or 1 person in 22, had a farm residence (table A). Since 1960, when there were 15.6 million people on farms, this population has declined by 6 million, or almost two-fifths. Between 1960 and 1972, the rate of loss in the total farm population averaged 4.1 percent annually.

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF THE FARM POPULATION

In 1972, in both the farm population and the nonfarm civilian noninstitutional population about one-fourth of the total were children under 14 years of age. The proportion of older persons, those 65 years old and over, was also quite similar for these two populations at 10 percent and 11 percent, respectively. However, the farm population was rather low in its percentage of young and middle-aged adults. Persons 20 to 44 years of age accounted for 25 percent of the farm total; by contrast they comprised 32 percent of the nonfarm total. This disparity in the age structure of the two populations primarily reflects the persistent high rates of outmigration among young farm adults.

The feature of more males than females continues to be a distinguishing characteristic of the farm population. In 1972, there were 108 farm men for

Table A. POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES, TOTAL AND FARM: APRIL 1960 TO 1972

(Numbers in thousands)

Year	Total resident population	Farm population	
		Number of persons[1]	Percent of total population
1972	207,775	9,610	4.6
1971	205,660	9,425	4.6
1970	[2]203,235	9,712	4.8
1969	200,887	10,307	5.1
1968	198,923	10,454	5.3
1967	196,976	10,875	5.5
1966	195,045	11,595	5.9
1965	192,983	12,363	6.4
1964	190,507	12,954	6.8
1963	187,837	13,367	7.1
1962	185,104	14,313	7.7
1961	182,298	14,803	8.1
1960	[2]179,323	15,635	8.7

[1]April-centered annual averages; see "Definitions and explanations."
[2]Official census count.

RC007286

For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, 35 cents.
Current Population Reports issued in Series P—20, P—23, P—25, P—26, P—27, P—28 (summaries only), P—60, and P—65 are sold as a single consolidated subscription at $30.50 per year, $7.75 additional for foreign mailing

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Social and Economic Statistics Administration
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

every 100 farm women; in the nonfarm civilian noninstitutional population, where females are in the majority, there were only 92 men for each 100 women. The stronger representation of males in the farm population is in reflection of a somewhat higher rate of outmigration of farm females as compared to males. This outmigration of females from farms, typically as they reach maturity, in turn reflects the predominantly masculine nature of farm work; of the 2.3 million farm residents employed in agriculture in 1972, 1.9 million or four-fifths were male (table B).

Farm people of Negro and other minority races numbered 870,000 in 1972 and comprised 9 percent of the national farm total (table 2). The proportion of children under 14 years old in the Negro and minority races farm population was considerably higher than the corresponding proportion among whites. Consequently, these racial groups comprised 13 percent of the farm children under 14 years of age compared to 8 percent of all farm people 14 years old and over.

LABOR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS

Despite heavy population losses, the rate of labor force participation in the farm population has remained essentially unchanged since 1960. In 1972, as in earlier years, about three-fifths of all farm residents 14 years old and over were in the labor force, either working or seeking work (table 3).

Data for 1970 and 1972 indicate no significant change in labor force participation by sex. In both years about 80 percent of the male farm residents and about 40 percent of the female farm residents were in the labor force. However, the trend evidenced over a longer period--1960 to 1972--has been a lowering in the participation of males and an increase in that for females. The comparable participation rates in 1960 were 85 percent and 30 percent, respectively.

There was no significant change in the 1970-72 period in the proportion of farm people employed in agriculture or in the percentage in nonagricultural employment. However, since 1960 the proportion of the farm-resident labor force employed solely or primarily in agriculture has fallen from 64 to 53 percent. During this same period the percentage of farm residents employed in nonagricultural industries rose from 33 to 45 percent. Although the increase in the proportion of the farm-resident labor force engaged in nonagricultural pursuits occurred in both of the major regions of the country, Southern farm residents were more likely to be employed in nonfarm work than were farm residents of the combined North and West.

The proportion of the population 14 years old and over in the labor force was higher among white farm residents than among Negro and other races on farms. In 1972, labor force participation rates for these racial groups were 61 and 53 percent, respectively (table 4). This racial difference resulted mostly from the disparity in the participation of farm males where the rate was 81 percent for whites and 72 percent for Negroes and persons of races other than white. There was no significant difference in participation by race among farm females.

In the farm-resident labor force unemployment was somewhat higher among Negro and other races than among whites. The 1972 rates of unemployment for these two groups were 4.7 percent and 2.0 percent, respectively. However, despite these racial differences, both of the farm unemployment rates were lower than those of the nonfarm population by race. For the civilian noninstitutional population living off farms, the rate of unemployment among the Negro and minority races other than white was 10.7 percent; the white rate was 5.5 percent.

Among the 2.3 million farm persons employed in agriculture in 1972, there were substantial differences in the class-of-worker distribution by sex. Self-employment was the predominant class of work among males while females were most often unpaid family workers (table 5). This was true regardless of their region of residence, although the incidence of self-employment among males and unpaid work among females was somewhat more pronounced in the combined North and West than in the South. This dominance of self-employment among males and unpaid family work among females pertained only to white farm residents in agriculture. Among Negro and other races on farms, agricultural wage and salary employment was the prevailing class of work.

Table B. PERSONS 14 YEARS OLD AND OVER EMPLOYED IN AGRICULTURE BY FARM-NONFARM RESIDENCE AND SEX: APRIL 1972 AND 1970

(Numbers in thousands. Figures are April-centered annual averages)

Residence	Both sexes		Male		Female		Percent distribution					
							Both sexes		Male		Female	
	1972	1970	1972	1970	1972	1970	1972	1970	1972	1970	1972	1970
Total employed in agriculture	3,678	3,696	3,003	3,045	675	650	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Farm residents	2,308	2,333	1,866	1,902	442	431	62.8	63.1	62.1	62.5	65.5	66.3
Nonfarm residents	1,370	1,363	1,137	1,143	233	220	37.2	36.9	37.9	37.5	34.5	33.8

In 1972, about 2 million farm people were engaged in nonfarm work. Farm residents employed in nonagricultural industries were preponderantly wage and salary workers, irrespective of their sex, race, or region of residence (table 6).

Of the 3.7 million persons employed in agriculture in 1972, 1.4 million, or 37 percent, did not live on a farm (table B). Data for 1972 and 1970 imply no significant change in either the number or percentage of agricultural workers who are nonfarm residents. However, an examination of the estimates for a longer period of time (1960-72) indicates that although there was a stability in number, the proportion has increased. Between 1960 and 1972, the percentage employed solely or primarily in agriculture who lived off farms rose from 25 percent to 37 percent. This primarily reflects the increasing tendency among farm wageworkers to commute rather than live directly on the farm. In contrast to self-employed and unpaid workers in agriculture, who are mainly farm residents, hired farm workers are more likely to live in nonfarm areas. By comparing tables 5 and C it can be seen that in 1972, almost two out of every three wage and salary agricultural workers lived off farms.

Table C. NONFARM RESIDENTS 14 YEARS OLD AND OVER EMPLOYED IN AGRICULTURE, BY CLASS OF WORKER AND SEX: APRIL 1972 AND 1970

(Numbers in thousands. Figures are April-centered annual averages)

Class of worker	Both sexes		Male		Female		Percent distribution					
							Both sexes		Male		Female	
	1972	1970	1972	1970	1972	1970	1972	1970	1972	1970	1972	1970
Total agricultural workers	1,370	1,363	1,137	1,143	233	220	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Self-employed workers	422	424	389	396	33	28	30.8	31.1	34.2	34.6	14.2	12.7
Wage and salary workers	891	872	724	719	167	153	65.0	64.0	63.7	62.9	71.7	69.5
Unpaid family workers	57	66	24	27	33	39	4.2	4.8	2.1	2.4	14.2	17.7

RELATED REPORTS

Beginning with 1972, the data are not strictly comparable with data for earlier years because of adjustments in sample design and survey procedures occasioned by 1970 census data. However, the effect on comparability with prior data is not considered sufficient to warrant revisions of earlier statistics. Application of 1972 procedures to data for March 1970 lowered the farm population 14 years old and over by about 75,000.

Comparable figures for 1971 appear in Farm Population, Series Census-ERS (P-27), No. 43, and other reports have been published annually beginning in 1961. Farm population figures for the United States, States, and counties for 1970 appear in chapter C of 1970 Census of Population, Final Report PC(1), General Social and Economic Characteristics. Characteristics of the farm population by States are presented in chapter D.

DEFINITIONS AND EXPLANATIONS

Population coverage.--With the exception of the total population shown in table A, all figures in this report relate to the civilian population. For convenience the term "farm population" is used without qualification, although the relatively few members of the Armed Forces living on farms are excluded.

Farm population.--In the Current Population Survey and the 1960 and 1970 Censuses of Population, the farm population consists of all persons living in rural territory on places of 10 or more acres if as much as $50 worth of agricultural products were sold from the place in the reporting year. It also includes those living on places of under 10 acres if as much as $250 worth of agricultural products were sold from the place in the reporting year. Persons in institutions, summer camps, motels, and tourist camps, and those living on rented places where no land is used for farming, are classified as nonfarm.

Since April 1960 in the Current Population Surveys, farm residence has been determined by the responses to two questions. Owners are asked, "Does this place have 10 or more acres?" and renters are asked, "Does the place you rent have 10 or more acres?" If the response is "Yes," the respondent is asked "During the past 12 months, did sales of crops, livestock, and other farm products from this place amount to $50 or more?" If the acreage response is "No," the inquiry relates to sales of $250 or more.

In the Current Population Survey, unmarried persons attending college away from home are enumerated as residents of their parents' homes; whereas, in the Census of Population, such persons are enumerated as residents of the communities in which they live while attending college. The effect of this difference is to classify a larger number of college-age persons as farm residents in the Current Population Survey than would be so classified under decennial census usage.

Farm population is not counted on places that lie within urban boundaries. Beginning with the 1972 estimate, the estimated farm population is limited to the rural territory as determined in the 1970 Census of Population. In the Current Population Surveys of 1963 through 1971, the urban-rural boundaries used were those of the 1960 Census of Population and did not take into account the annexations and other substantial expansions of urban territory that were incorporated into the 1970 Census of Population. The net effect of the difference was to classify an unknown number of persons as rural farm in the Current Population Surveys of 1970 and 1971 who were treated as urban in the reports of the 1970 census.

Under CPS procedures a place is classified by farm or nonfarm residence at the time the household enters the sample. Prior to April 1963, this initial classification was retained in most cases, without reexamination, for the entire 16-month period in which a household remains in the sample. (A household is in the panel for 4 months, drops out for 8 months, and then is reinstated for 4 months.) In view of the continued decline in the farm population, it is likely that some places which qualified as farms on entrance no longer met the criteria toward the end of the 16-month period. Since April 1963 the questions concerning farm residence have been re-asked of all households as they are reinstated in the sample a year after their first interview. The precise effect of the procedure has not been measured. It is not thought to be great, but the direction of change is almost certainly toward a lowering of the 1963 and following farm population estimates in comparison with what the former procedure would have yielded.

April-centered annual averages.--April-centered annual averages of the farm population for the years 1960 through 1972 were computed by using data for the five quarters centered on the April date for which the estimate was being prepared.[1] One reason for the choice of April as the date of the annual population survey is that this is the decennial census month. April-centered annual averages for persons under 14 years by race and sex, and for persons 14 years old and over, by race, sex, age, labor force characteristics, and region were computed for 1972 by using data for the specified characteristics for the five quarters centered on April 1972.

Age.--The age classification, for each month used in computing the averages, is based on the age of the person at his last birthday.

Race.--The population is divided into three groups on the basis of race: white, Negro, and "other races." The last category includes Indians, Japanese, Chinese, and any other race except white and Negro.

[1]For example, for April 1972, quarterly estimates for the months of October 1971, and January, April, July, and October 1972, were used with a weight of one-eighth each given to the two October estimates and a weight of one-fourth to each of the estimates of the other 3 months.

Labor force and employment status.--The definitions of labor force and employment status in this report relate to the population 14 years old and over.

Employed.--Employed persons comprise (1) all civilians who, during the specified week, did any work at all as paid employees or in their own business or profession, or on their own farm, or who worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers on a farm or in a business operated by a member of the family, and (2) all those who were not working but who had jobs or businesses from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, bad weather, vacation, or labor-management dispute, or because they were taking time off for personal reasons, whether or not they were paid by their employers for time off, and whether or not they were seeking other jobs. Excluded from the employed group are persons whose only activity consisted of work around the house (such as own home housework, painting or repairing own home, etc.) or volunteer work for religious, charitable, and similar organizations.

Unemployed.--Unemployed persons are those civilians who, during the survey week, had no employment but were available for work and (1) had engaged in any specific jobseeking activity within the past 4 weeks, such as registering at a public or private employment office, meeting with prospective employers, checking with friends or relatives, placing or answering advertisements, writing letters of application, or being on a union or professional register; (2) were waiting to be called back to a job from which they had been laid off; or (3) were waiting to report to a new wage or salary job within 30 days.

Labor force.--Persons are classified as in the labor force if they were employed as civilians, unemployed, or in the Armed Forces during the survey week. The "civilian labor force" is comprised of all civilians classified as employed or unemployed.

Not in the labor force.--All civilians who are not classified as employed or unemployed are defined as "not in the labor force." This group who are neither employed nor seeking work includes persons engaged only in own home housework, attending school, or unable to work because of long-term physical or mental illness, persons who are retired or too old to work, seasonal workers for whom the survey week fell in an off season, and the voluntarily idle. Persons doing only unpaid family work (less than 15 hours) are also classified as not in the labor force.

Agriculture.--The industry category "agriculture" is somewhat more inclusive than the total of the two major occupation groups, "farmers and farm managers" and "farm laborers and foremen." It also includes (a) persons employed on farms in occupations such as truck driver, mechanic, and bookkeeper, and (b) persons engaged in activities other than strictly farm operation such as cotton ginning, contract farm services, veterinary and breeding services, hatcheries, experimental stations, greenhouses, landscape gardening, tree service, trapping, hunting preserves, and kennels.

Nonagricultural industries.--This category includes all industries not specifically classed under agriculture.

Multiple jobs.--Persons with two or more jobs during the survey week were classified as employed in the industry in which they worked the greatest number of hours during the week. Consequently, some of the persons shown in this report as engaged in nonagricultural activities also engaged in agriculture and vice versa.

Class of workers

Self-employed workers.--Persons who worked for profit or fees in their own business, profession, or trade, or who operated a farm either as an owner or tenant.

Wage and salary workers.--Persons who worked for any governmental unit or private employer for wages, salary, commission, tips, pay "in kind," or at piece rates.

Unpaid family workers.--Persons who worked without pay on a farm or in a business operated by a person to whom they are related by blood or marriage.

Rounding.--The individual figures in this report are rounded to the nearest thousand. With few exceptions, the individual figures in this report have not been adjusted to group totals, which are independently rounded. Percentages are rounded to the nearest tenth of a percent; therefore, the percentages in a distribution do not always add to exactly 100.0 percent. The totals, however, are always shown as 100.0. Percentages are based on the rounded absolute numbers.

SOURCE AND RELIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES

Source of data.--The estimates in this report are based on data obtained in the Current Population Survey (CPS) of the Bureau of the Census. With the exception of the total population shown in table A, the figures are April-centered annual averages. That is, the estimates were computed by using data for the five quarters centered on the April date for which the estimate was being prepared. See "Definitions and explanations" for further clarification.

The present Current Population Survey sample is spread over 461 areas comprising 923 counties and independent cities with coverage in each of the 50 States and the District of Columbia. Approximately 47,000 occupied housing units are eligible for interview each month. Of this number, 2,000 occupied units, on the average, are visited but interviews are not obtained because the occupants are not found at home after repeated calls or are unavailable for some other reason. In addition to the 47,000, there are also about 8,000 sample units in an average month which are visited but are found to be vacant or otherwise not to be interviewed.

Data collected in January 1967 through July 1972 in the CPS were based on a sample spread over 449 areas comprising 863 counties and independent cities with coverage in each of the 50 States and the District of Columbia. Approximately 47,000 occupied households were eligible for interview each month. Data collected for October 1972 were based on a sample design which was transitional between the two sample designs described above.

Between December 1962 and December 1966 the sample was spread over 357 areas with an average monthly sample size of 35,000 households. In 1960 the sample also averaged 35,000 households monthly, but was spread over 333 areas.

The estimating procedure used in this survey involved the inflation of the weighted sample results to independent estimates of the civilian noninstitutional population of the United States by age, race, and sex. These independent estimates were based on statistics from the 1970 Census of Population; statistics of births, deaths, immigration, and emigration; and statistics on the strength of the Armed Forces.

Reliability of the estimates.--Since the estimates are based on a sample, they may differ somewhat from figures obtained if a complete census had been taken using the same schedules, instructions, and enumerators. As in any survey work, the results are subject to errors of response and of reporting as well as being subject to sampling variability.

The standard error is primarily a measure of sampling variability, that is, of the variations that occur by chance because a sample rather than the whole of the population is surveyed. As calculated for this report, the standard error also partially measures the effect of response and enumeration errors but does not measure any systematic biases in the data. The chances are about 68 out of 100 that an estimate from the sample would differ from a complete census figure by less than the standard error. The chances are about 95 out of 100 that the difference would be less than twice the standard error.

All statements of comparison appearing in the text are significant at a 1.6 standard error level or better. Most are significant at a level of more than 2.0 standard errors. Thus, for most differences cited in the text, the estimated difference is greater than twice the standard error of the difference. Statements of comparison qualified in some way (e.g., by use of the phrase "some evidence") have a level of significance between 1.6 and 2.0 standard errors.

The figures presented in table D are approximations to the standard errors of various estimates shown in this report. In order to derive standard errors that would be applicable to a wide variety of items and could be prepared at a moderate cost, a number of approximations were required. As a result, the tables of standard errors provide an indication of the order of magnitude of the standard errors rather than the precise standard error for any specific item.

The reliability of an estimated percentage, computed by using sample data for both numerator and denominator, depends upon both the size of the percentage and the size of the total upon which the percentage is based. Estimated percentages are relatively more reliable than the corresponding estimates of the numerators of the percentages, particularly if the percentages are 50 percent or more. Table E contains the standard errors of estimated percentages.

Tables D and E below show standard errors for April-centered estimates for the years 1967 through 1972. The April-centered annual estimates of the farm population are subject to somewhat less sampling variability than are the data for a single month.

For a difference between two sample estimates, the standard error is approximately equal to the square root of the sum of the squares of the standard errors of each estimate considered separately. This formula will represent the actual standard error quite accurately for the difference between two estimates of the same characteristics in two different areas, or for the difference between separate and uncorrelated characteristics in the same area. If, however, there is a high positive correlation between the two characteristics, the formula will overestimate the true standard error.

When two estimates of the total farm population of the United States are compared, there is a reduction in the standard error of the difference when the estimates are for consecutive years. The standard error of such differences in the period 1967 through 1972 is about 150,000. The standard error of such differences in the period 1961 through 1967 is about 200,000.

Illustration of the use of tables of standard errors.--Table 2 of this report shows that in 1972 there were 4,993,000 males on rural farms. Table D shows that the standard error of an April-centered annual estimate of this size is approximately 92,000. The chances are 68 out of 100 that the estimate would have been a figure differing from a complete census figure by less than 92,000. The chances are 95 out of 100 that the estimate would have been a figure differing from a complete census figure by less than 184,000, i.e., this 95 percent confidence interval would be from 4,809,000 to 5,177,000.

Of these 4,993,000 males, 440,000 or 9.1 percent, are Negro and other races. Table E shows the standard error of 9.1 percent on a base of 4,993,000 to be approximately 0.4 percentage points. Chances are 68 out of 100 that the estimated 9.1 percent would be within 0.4 percentage points of a complete census figure, and chances are 95 out of 100 that the estimate would be within 0.8 percentage points of a complete census figure, i.e., this 95 percent confidence interval would be from 8.3 to 9.9 percent.

Table D. STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATED NUMBERS: APRIL-CENTERED ANNUAL AVERAGES

(68 chances out of 100)

Size of estimate	Standard error	Size of estimate	Standard error
25,000.....	5,000	1,000,000.....	34,000
50,000.....	7,200	2,500,000.....	58,000
100,000.....	10,200	5,000,000.....	92,000
250,000.....	16,200	10,000,000.....	154,000
500,000.....	23,000	15,000,000.....	214,000

Table E. STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATED PERCENTAGES: APRIL-CENTERED ANNUAL AVERAGES

(68 chances out of 100)

Estimated percentage	Base of percentage (thousands)									
	25	50	100	250	500	1,000	2,500	5,000	10,000	15,000
1 or 99.....	2.0	1.4	1.0	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.14	0.10	0.08
2 or 98.....	2.8	2.0	1.4	0.9	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.14	0.12
5 or 95.....	4.4	3.1	2.2	1.4	1.0	0.7	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.2
10 or 90.....	6.1	4.3	3.0	2.0	1.4	1.0	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.3
25 or 75.....	8.8	6.2	4.4	2.8	2.0	1.4	0.9	0.6	0.4	0.4
50.....	10.1	7.2	5.1	3.2	2.3	1.6	1.0	0.7	0.5	0.4

Table 1. FARM POPULATION, BY AGE AND SEX: APRIL 1972 AND 1970

(Numbers in thousands. Figures are April-centered annual averages)

Age	Both sexes		Male		Female		Percent distribution					
							Both sexes		Male		Female	
	1972	1970	1972	1970	1972	1970	1972	1970	1972	1970	1972	1970
All ages	9,610	9,712	4,993	5,004	4,617	4,708	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 14 years	2,382	2,490	1,247	1,274	1,135	1,216	24.8	25.6	25.0	25.5	24.6	25.8
14 years and over	7,228	7,222	3,746	3,730	3,482	3,492	75.2	74.4	75.0	74.5	75.4	74.2
14 to 19 years	1,325	1,316	714	714	611	602	13.8	13.6	14.3	14.3	13.2	12.8
20 to 24 years	540	502	301	269	239	232	5.6	5.2	6.0	5.4	5.2	4.9
25 to 34 years	813	770	401	371	412	399	8.5	7.9	8.0	7.4	8.9	8.5
35 to 44 years	1,024	1,061	497	518	527	543	10.7	10.9	10.0	10.4	11.4	11.5
45 to 54 years	1,211	1,250	610	618	601	632	12.6	12.9	12.2	12.4	13.0	13.4
55 to 64 years	1,228	1,202	640	641	588	561	12.8	12.4	12.8	12.8	12.7	11.9
65 years and over	1,087	1,122	583	599	504	523	11.3	11.6	11.7	12.0	10.9	11.1

Table 2. FARM POPULATION, BY RACE AND SEX, FOR BROAD AGE GROUPS: APRIL 1972 AND 1970

(Numbers in thousands. Figures are April-centered annual averages)

Age and race	Both sexes		Male		Female		Percent distribution					
							Both sexes		Male		Female	
	1972	1970	1972	1970	1972	1970	1972	1970	1972	1970	1972	1970
Total	9,610	9,712	4,993	5,004	4,617	4,708	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White	8,740	8,775	4,553	4,524	4,187	4,251	90.9	90.4	91.2	90.4	90.7	90.3
Negro and other races	870	938	440	480	430	458	9.1	9.7	8.8	9.6	9.3	9.7
Under 14 years	2,382	2,490	1,247	1,274	1,135	1,216	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White	2,072	2,152	1,089	1,101	983	1,051	87.0	86.4	87.3	86.4	86.6	86.4
Negro and other races	310	338	158	173	152	165	13.0	13.6	12.7	13.6	13.4	13.6
14 years and over	7,228	7,222	3,746	3,730	3,482	3,492	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White	6,668	6,623	3,464	3,423	3,204	3,200	92.3	91.7	92.5	91.8	92.0	91.6
Negro and other races	560	600	282	307	278	293	7.7	8.3	7.5	8.2	8.0	8.4

Table 3. EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF THE FARM POPULATION 14 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY SEX, APRIL 1972 AND 1970, BY REGIONS, APRIL 1972

(Numbers in thousands. Figures are April-centered annual averages)

Labor force status and sex	Total		North and West	South	Percent distribution			
					Total		North and West	South
	1972	1970	1972	1972	1972	1970	1972	1972
Both sexes	7,228	7,222	4,401	2,827	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Labor force	4,361	4,293	2,747	1,614	60.3	59.4	62.4	57.1
Not in labor force	2,867	2,929	1,654	1,213	39.7	40.6	37.6	42.9
Labor force	4,361	4,293	2,747	1,614	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Employed	4,264	4,211	2,692	1,572	97.8	98.1	98.0	97.4
Agriculture	2,308	2,333	1,562	746	52.9	54.3	56.9	46.2
Nonagricultural industries	1,956	1,878	1,130	826	44.9	43.7	41.1	51.2
Unemployed	97	82	55	42	2.2	1.9	2.0	2.6
Male	3,746	3,730	2,303	1,443	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Labor force	2,992	2,974	1,881	1,111	79.9	79.7	81.7	77.0
Not in labor force	754	756	422	332	20.1	20.3	18.3	23.0
Labor force	2,992	2,974	1,881	1,111	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Employed	2,941	2,932	1,850	1,091	98.3	98.6	98.4	98.2
Agriculture	1,866	1,902	1,240	626	62.4	64.0	65.9	56.3
Nonagricultural industries	1,075	1,030	610	465	35.9	34.6	32.4	41.9
Unemployed	51	42	31	20	1.7	1.4	1.6	1.8
Female	3,482	3,492	2,098	1,384	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Labor force	1,369	1,319	866	503	39.3	37.8	41.3	36.3
Not in labor force	2,113	2,173	1,232	881	60.7	62.2	58.7	63.7
Labor force	1,369	1,319	866	503	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Employed	1,323	1,279	842	481	96.6	97.0	97.2	95.6
Agriculture	442	431	322	120	32.3	32.7	37.2	23.9
Nonagricultural industries	831	849	520	361	64.4	64.4	60.0	71.8
Unemployed	46	40	24	22	3.4	3.0	2.8	4.4

Table 4. EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF THE FARM POPULATION 14 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY RACE AND SEX, FOR REGIONS: APRIL 1972

(Numbers in thousands. Figures are April-centered annual averages)

Labor force status, race, and sex	Total	North and West	South	Percent distribution		
				Total	North and West	South
WHITE						
Both sexes	6,668	4,329	2,339	100.0	100.0	100.0
Labor force	4,062	2,713	1,349	60.9	62.7	57.7
Not in labor force	2,606	1,616	990	39.1	37.3	42.3
Labor force	4,062	2,713	1,349	100.0	100.0	100.0
Employed	3,979	2,660	1,319	98.0	98.0	97.8
Agriculture	2,160	1,545	615	53.2	56.9	45.6
Nonagricultural industries	1,819	1,115	704	44.8	41.1	52.2
Unemployed	83	53	30	2.0	2.0	2.2
Male	3,464	2,267	1,197	100.0	100.0	100.0
Labor force	2,790	1,858	932	80.5	82.0	77.9
Not in labor force	674	409	265	19.5	18.0	22.1
Labor force	2,790	1,858	932	100.0	100.0	100.0
Employed	2,746	1,829	917	98.4	98.4	98.4
Agriculture	1,741	1,227	514	62.4	66.0	55.2
Nonagricultural industries	1,005	602	403	36.0	32.4	43.2
Unemployed	44	29	15	1.6	1.6	1.6
Female	3,204	2,062	1,142	100.0	100.0	100.0
Labor force	1,272	855	417	39.7	41.5	36.5
Not in labor force	1,932	1,207	725	60.3	58.5	63.5
Labor force	1,272	855	417	100.0	100.0	100.0
Employed	1,233	831	402	96.9	97.2	96.4
Agriculture	419	318	101	32.9	37.2	24.2
Nonagricultural industries	814	513	301	64.0	60.0	72.2
Unemployed	39	24	15	3.1	2.8	3.6
NEGRO AND OTHER RACES						
Both sexes	560	72	488	100.0	(B)	100.0
Labor force	299	34	265	53.4	(B)	54.3
Not in labor force	261	38	223	46.6	(B)	45.7
Labor force	299	34	265	100.0	(B)	100.0
Employed	285	32	253	95.3	(B)	95.5
Agriculture	148	17	131	49.5	(B)	49.4
Nonagricultural industries	137	15	122	45.8	(B)	46.0
Unemployed	14	2	12	4.7	(B)	4.5
Male	282	36	246	100.0	(B)	100.0
Labor force	202	23	179	71.6	(B)	72.8
Not in labor force	80	13	67	28.4	(B)	27.2
Labor force	202	23	179	100.0	(B)	100.0
Employed	195	21	174	96.5	(B)	97.2
Agriculture	125	13	112	61.9	(B)	62.6
Nonagricultural industries	70	8	62	34.7	(B)	34.6
Unemployed	7	2	5	3.5	(B)	2.8
Female	278	36	242	100.0	(B)	100.0
Labor force	97	11	86	34.9	(B)	35.5
Not in labor force	181	25	156	65.1	(B)	64.5
Labor force	97	11	86	100.0	(B)	100.0
Employed	90	11	79	92.8	(B)	91.9
Agriculture	23	4	19	23.7	(B)	22.1
Nonagricultural industries	67	7	60	69.1	(B)	69.8
Unemployed	7	-	7	7.2	(B)	8.1

- Represents zero or rounds to zero.
B Base less than 75,000.

Table 5. FARM RESIDENTS 14 YEARS OLD AND OVER EMPLOYED IN AGRICULTURE BY CLASS OF WORKER, RACE, AND SEX, APRIL 1972 AND 1970, AND BY REGIONS, APRIL 1972

(Numbers in thousands. Figures are April-centered annual averages)

Class of worker, race, and sex	Total		North and West	South	Percent distribution			
					Total		North and West	South
	1972	1970	1972	1972	1972	1970	1972	1972
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL WORKERS								
Both sexes	2,308	2,333	1,562	746	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Self-employed workers	1,358	1,411	937	421	58.8	60.5	60.0	56.4
Wage and salary workers	447	395	222	225	19.4	16.9	14.2	30.2
Unpaid family workers	503	526	403	100	21.8	22.5	25.8	13.4
Male	1,866	1,902	1,240	626	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Self-employed workers	1,279	1,352	887	392	68.5	71.1	71.5	62.6
Wage and salary workers	390	349	197	193	20.9	18.3	15.9	30.8
Unpaid family workers	197	200	156	41	10.6	10.5	12.6	6.5
Female	442	431	322	120	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Self-employed workers	79	59	50	29	17.9	13.7	15.5	24.2
Wage and salary workers	57	46	25	32	12.9	10.7	7.8	26.7
Unpaid family workers	306	326	247	59	69.2	75.6	76.7	49.2
WHITE								
Both sexes	2,160	2,158	1,545	615	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Self-employed workers	1,324	1,358	933	391	61.3	62.9	60.4	63.6
Wage and salary workers	347	299	213	134	16.1	13.9	13.8	21.8
Unpaid family workers	489	501	399	90	22.6	23.2	25.8	14.6
Male	1,741	1,762	1,227	514	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Self-employed workers	1,248	1,304	884	364	71.7	74.0	72.0	70.8
Wage and salary workers	304	271	189	115	17.5	15.4	15.4	22.4
Unpaid family workers	189	187	154	35	10.9	10.6	12.6	6.8
Female	419	396	318	101	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Self-employed workers	76	54	49	27	18.1	13.6	15.4	26.7
Wage and salary workers	43	28	24	19	10.3	7.1	7.5	18.8
Unpaid family workers	300	314	245	55	71.6	79.3	77.0	54.5
NEGRO AND OTHER RACES								
Both sexes	148	175	17	131	100.0	100.0	(B)	100.0
Self-employed workers	34	53	4	30	23.0	30.3	(B)	22.9
Wage and salary workers	100	97	9	91	67.6	55.4	(B)	69.5
Unpaid family workers	14	25	4	10	9.5	14.3	(B)	7.6
Male	125	140	13	112	100.0	100.0	(B)	100.0
Self-employed workers	31	48	3	28	24.8	34.3	(B)	25.0
Wage and salary workers	86	79	8	78	68.8	56.4	(B)	69.6
Unpaid family workers	8	13	2	6	6.4	9.3	(B)	5.4
Female	23	35	4	19	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Self-employed workers	3	5	1	2	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Wage and salary workers	14	18	1	13	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Unpaid family workers	6	12	2	14	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)

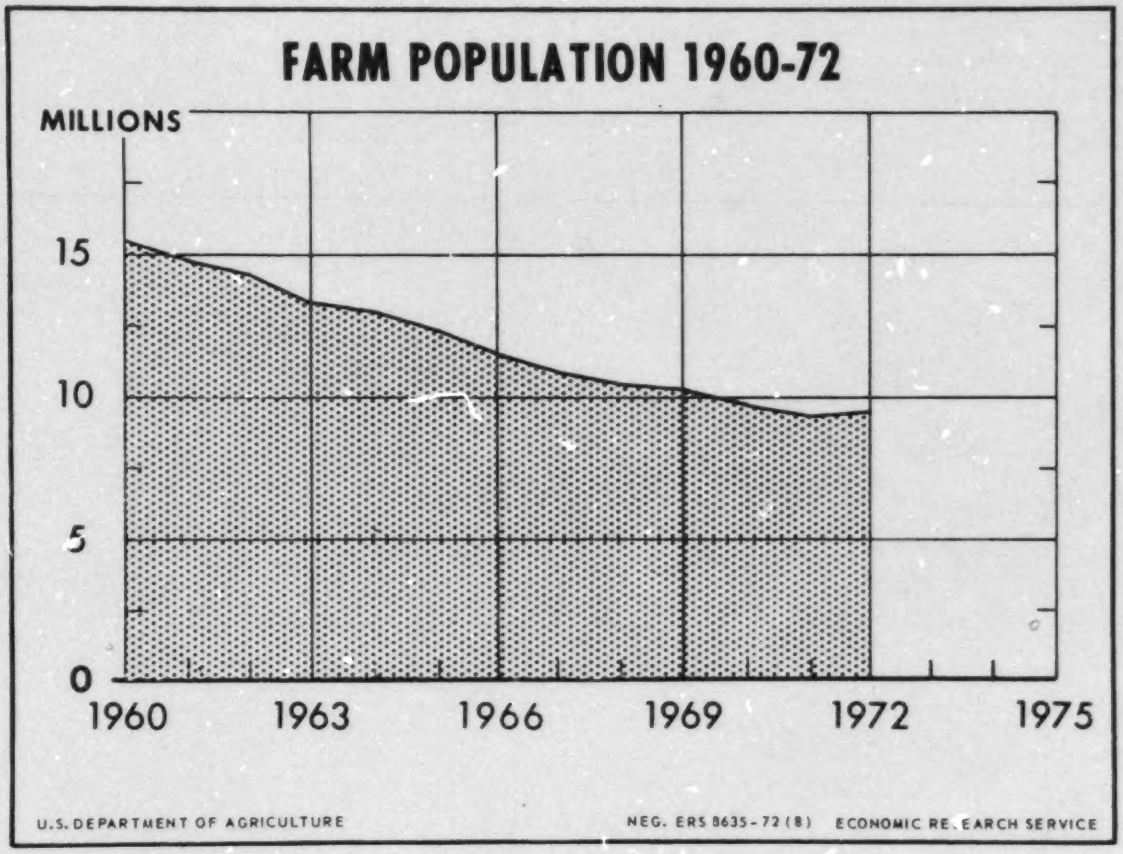
B Base less than 75,000.

Table 6. FARM RESIDENTS 14 YEARS OLD AND OVER EMPLOYED IN NONAGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES, BY CLASS OF WORKER, RACE, AND SEX, FOR REGIONS: APRIL 1972

(Numbers in thousands. Figures are April-centered annual averages)

Class of worker, race, and sex	Total	North and West	South	Percent distribution		
				Total	North and West	South
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL WORKERS						
Both sexes	1,956	1,130	826	100.0	100.0	100.0
Self-employed workers	181	99	82	9.3	8.8	9.9
Wages and salary workers	1,754	1,023	731	89.7	90.5	88.5
Unpaid family workers	21	8	13	1.1	0.7	1.6
Male	1,075	610	465	100.0	100.0	100.0
Self-employed workers	124	71	53	11.5	11.6	11.4
Wage and salary workers	946	537	409	88.0	88.0	88.0
Unpaid family workers	5	2	3	0.5	0.3	0.6
Female	881	520	361	100.0	100.0	100.0
Self-employed workers	57	28	29	6.5	5.4	8.0
Wage and salary workers	808	486	322	91.7	93.5	89.2
Unpaid family workers	16	6	10	1.8	1.2	2.8
WHITE						
Both sexes	1,819	1,115	704	100.0	100.0	100.0
Self-employed workers	175	97	79	9.7	8.7	11.2
Wage and salary workers	1,622	1,010	612	89.2	90.6	86.9
Unpaid family workers	21	8	13	1.2	0.7	1.8
Male	1,005	602	403	100.0	100.0	100.0
Self-employed workers	121	70	51	12.0	11.6	12.7
Wage and salary workers	879	530	349	87.5	88.0	86.6
Unpaid family workers	5	2	3	0.5	0.3	0.7
Female	814	513	301	100.0	100.0	100.0
Self-employed workers	55	27	28	6.8	5.3	9.3
Wage and salary workers	743	480	263	91.3	93.6	87.4
Unpaid family workers	16	6	10	2.0	1.2	3.3
NEGRO AND OTHER RACES						
Both sexes	137	15	122	100.0	(B)	100.0
Self-employed workers	5	2	3	3.6	(B)	2.5
Wage and salary workers	132	13	119	96.4	(B)	97.5
Unpaid family workers	-	-	-	(B)	(B)	(B)
Male	70	8	62	(B)	(B)	(B)
Self-employed workers	3	1	2	(B)	(B)	(B)
Wage and salary workers	67	7	60	(B)	(B)	(B)
Unpaid family workers	-	-	-	(B)	(B)	(B)
Female	67	7	60	(B)	(B)	(B)
Self-employed workers	2	1	1	(B)	(B)	(B)
Wage and salary workers	65	6	59	(B)	(B)	(B)
Unpaid family workers	-	-	-	(B)	(B)	(B)

- Represents zero or rounds to zero.
B Base less than 75,000.


FARM POPULATION 1960-72
MILLIONS
15
10
5
0
1960
1963
1966
1969
1972
1975
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. ERS 8635-72 (8) ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE